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LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the violations of Iraqi national airspace committed by United States aircraft in order to carry out reconnaissance and cause provocation continued over the period 1-10 November 1995.

1 November 1995

1. Northern region: 12 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

2. Southern region: 62 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Chabaish, Basra, Artawi and Busayyah.

3. On 1 November 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0855 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1025 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1157 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1325 hours.

2 November 1995

1. Northern region: 14 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

2. Southern region: 34 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Basra, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Samawah, Jalibah and Artawi.

3. On 2 November 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0955 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1125 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1247 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1415 hours.

3 November 1995

1. Northern region: 12 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah.

2. Southern region: 66 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shatrah, Salman and Lasaf.

3. On 3 November 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0938 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1140 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1248 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1450 hours.

4 November 1995

1. Northern region: 10 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Zakho and Amadiyah.

2. Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Shatrah, Shanafiyah, Chabaish, Lasaf, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Samawah and Busayyah.

3. On 4 November 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0910 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1030 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1210 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1330 hours.

5 November 1995

1. Southern region: 52 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Chabaish, Jalibah, Busayyah and Artawi.

6 November 1995

1. Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi and Busayyah.

2. On 6 November 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0902 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1030 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1155 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1322 hours.

7 November 1995

1. Southern region: 57 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Qurnah, Amarah, Qal'at Salih, Jalibah, Busayyah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shanafiyah and Artawi.

2. On 7 November 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0940 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1110 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1245 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1320 hours.

3. At 0800 hours on 7 November 1995, a hostile formation broke the sound barrier four times over residential neighbourhoods in Samawah, breaking window-panes in a number of homes and government offices.

8 November 1995

1. Southern region: 45 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Busayyah, Shanafiyah, Salman, Chabaish and Artawi.

2. At 1245 hours on 8 November 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1405 hours.

9 November 1995

1. Northern region: 12 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Amadiyah and Shaqlawah.

2. Southern region: 36 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qurnah, Qal'at Salih and Jalibah.

3. At 0930 hours on 9 November 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1020 hours.

10 November 1995

Southern region: 36 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Chabaish, Nasiriyah and Samawah.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative